

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 have been cancelled without prejudice to the filing of any appropriate continuation application. New claims 12-40 have been added. Support for new claims 12-40 may be found throughout the specification and the claims as originally filed. Specifically, support for claim 12 can be found in claim 1 as originally filed, in the specification at least at page 3, lines 11-17 where Applicants teach a plug for insertion into a bone canal comprising an elongate central body of substantially constant cross section; and that the plug is made of a copolymer of a polyalkylene glycol terephthalate and an aromatic polyester, and in the specification at page 3, lines 18-20 where Applicants teach a plug configuration having a plurality of flanges. Support for new claim 13 can be found in claim 1 as originally filed and at least at page 3, lines 11-17 of the specification where Applicants teach a plug for insertion into a bone canal comprising an elongate central body of substantially constant cross section; that the plug is made of a copolymer of a polyalkylene glycol terephthalate and an aromatic polyester; and that the flanges extend in substantially parallel planes, and in the specification at page 3, lines 18-20 where Applicants teach a plug configuration having a plurality of flanges. Support for claims 14-23 can be found at least in claims 2-11 as originally filed, respectively. Support for new claim 25 can be found in claim 1 as originally filed, and in the specification at page 3, lines 26-27 and at page 9, line 1 where Applicants teach flanges having radial cuts. Support for new claim 26 can be found in the specification at least at page 3, lines 26-27 where Applicants teach that the radial cuts in the flanges may be closed due to swelling of the material in response to surrounding fluid, and at page 9, lines 1-2 where Applicants teach cuts that may be closed due to the swellable behavior of the copolymer. Support for new claim 27 can be found at least in claim 1 as originally filed, and in the specification at page 4, line 1 where Applicants teach flanges having apertures. Support for new

claim 28 can be found in the specification at least at page 4, lines 1-2 where Applicants teach apertures that extend axially through the flanges. Support for new claim 29 can be found in the specification at least at page 4, lines 3-5 where Applicants teach apertures that are perforations. Support for new claim 30 can be found in the specification at least at page 4, lines 3-5 where Applicants teach that perforations may be holes and slots. Support for new claim 31 can be found in the specification at least at page 4, lines 5-7 where Applicants teach apertures that are partially closed. Support for new claim 32 can be found in the specification at least at page 4, line 1 where Applicants teach apertures that do not extend axially through the flanges. Support for new claim 33 can be found in the specification at least at page 4, lines 2-3 where Applicants teach closed chambers, closed voids, blind holes and grooves. Support for new claims 34 and 37 can be found in claim 10 as originally filed. Support for new claims 35, 36, 38 and 39 can be found in claim 11 as originally filed. Support for new claim 40 can be found at least at page 8, lines 21-25 where Applicants teach a flange provided with apertures which may close upon swelling of the material of the supporting zone. These amendments add no new matter.

Preliminary to examination, Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

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